



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re application of: :
Steven A. Blankenship, et.al. :
Serial No. 10/025,663 : Art Unit: 1754
Filing Date: December 19, 2001 : Examiner: NGUYEN, CAM N.
Attorney Docket No. P-1106 : Confirmation No. 6529
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RESPONSE

This is a Response to the Election/Restriction Office Action from the United States Patent and Trademark Office dated October 3, 2003. In that Office Action the USPTO asserts that two inventions are present in the filed claims, namely Claims 1 - 14 (Invention I) and Claims 15 - 21 (Invention II). The USPTO asserts that the two different Inventions are drawn to different processes and, therefore a restriction is necessary.

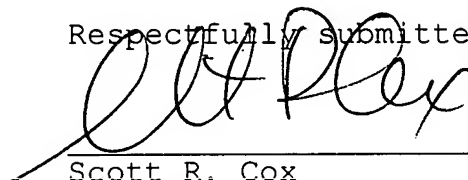
In response thereto the applicants elect to prosecute Invention I, Claims 1 - 14, without traverse.

The applicants also cancel Claims 15 - 21, but reserve the right to refile those Claims in a later-filed application.

CONCLUSION

By this Response the applicants believe that the application is now in condition for substantive review by the United States Patent and Trademark Office. If there are any questions concerning this Response, please contact applicants' counsel.

Respectfully submitted,



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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Non Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Date: Oct. 23, 2003

Nelly Hart

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